

GENDER STUDIES

Director: [Karla McCain](#)

Faculty: Tom Blake, Audrey Flemming, Matt Findley, Roger Platizky, Jeremy Posadas, Erin Cople Smith, Randi Tanglen, Ashley Tharayil, Brian Watkins

The gender studies program provides students with the tools to examine and interrogate gender both as a social construct and as a lived reality. Using comparative, competing, and cross-disciplinary perspectives, students are invited to analyze gender performance, sexuality, and sex-identification as these are situated in a variety of personal, social, cultural, and historical contexts. Intersections with race, class, age, ethnicity, and national identity are often explored in the process.

Degree Plans Offered in Gender Studies

Minor in Gender Studies

A student may **major in gender studies** by submitting a proposal for a personally designed interdisciplinary major (see the director for more information). Disciplinary courses approved for gender studies are listed collectively in the course schedule each term.

A **minor in gender studies** consists of:

Required Course (1 course)

_____ GNDR 120

Multidisciplinary Courses (5 courses)

_____ Course Prefix and Number _____ Any level

_____ Course Prefix and Number _____ Any level

_____ Course Prefix and Number _____ 200 level or higher

_____ Course Prefix and Number _____ 200 level or higher

_____ Course Prefix and Number _____ 300 level or higher

_____ Three different disciplines are represented in the courses above.

Other Considerations When Planning for the Minor:

- Up to two courses above can be from January term

- Utilize “GN” search criteria in WebHopper to find relevant courses or consult with program faculty.

Total Credits Requirement = 6 course credits

COURSES

GNDR 120 Introduction to Gender Studies

An exploration of the multi-faceted nature of gender, sex, and sexuality as these intersect with societal, cultural, historical, scientific, and intellectual facets of human life and experience. Drawing on methods from the humanities, sciences, and social sciences, we seek to gain an appreciation for the ways in which humans have constructed the body over time, how different kinds of gender and sex performances are viewed from both dominant cultural perspectives and from those on the periphery, and how these perceptions are deeply integrated into the larger societal fabrics that make up our daily lives. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Each fall)

GNDR 201 Women and Science

How have women contributed to science? Do women (or feminists) do science differently, and if so how? Why are women underrepresented in science? How can women, both personally and institutionally, be more successful in science? This course will explore various answers to these questions from multidisciplinary perspectives including psychology, sociology, history, philosophy, and literature. While this course will examine the past and present status of women in mathematics, physics, chemistry, and biology, technical knowledge of these fields is not necessary for the course. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth.

GNDR 250 Topics in Gender Studies

A study of selected topics for beginning students based on faculty and student interests. Offered on an occasional basis. Course may be repeated when topic varies. 1 course credit.

GNDR 253 Literature and Gender

A variety of courses focused on issues of sex and gender in literature. Topics include women’s literature, gender/genre, bodies of enlightenment, gay and lesbian writers, and postcolonial women writers. May be repeated once when topic varies. (Offered on an occasional basis.)

GNDR 260 Intermediate Directed Study

Student investigation of topic of interest working in collaboration with a faculty member resulting in significant oral and written work. See On-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Freshman JanTerm or Sophomore standing. Special permission required. Offered in variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.

GNDR 350/450 Advanced Topics in Gender Studies

An investigation of selected topics for more advanced students based on faculty and student interests. Offered on an occasional basis. Course may be repeated when topic varies. Prerequisites vary. 1 course credit.

GNDR 460 Advanced Directed Study

Student investigation of topic of interest related to the major or minor working in collaboration with a faculty member resulting in significant oral and written work. See On-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Junior or Senior standing. Special permission required. Offered for variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.

GNDR 490 Independent Study

Student-driven independent work to produce a high quality body of work such as paper, report, art project, etc. See On-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Junior or Senior standing. Special permission required. Offered in variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.

GNDR 492 Independent Study Off-Campus/NSOC

Student-driven independent study in a topic related to the major completed at an off-campus site. See Off-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Junior or Senior standing. Special permission required. Offered in variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.